

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
28 October 2004 (28.10.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/092186 A1**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **C07F 9/09**,  
9/10, 9/12, 9/117, A61K 9/08, 31/661, 31/6615, 31/683,  
31/685, A61P 9/00, 23/00, 25/24

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/AU2004/000490

(22) International Filing Date: 14 April 2004 (14.04.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
2003901812 15 April 2003 (15.04.2003) AU

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): VITAL  
HEALTH SCIENCES PTY LTD [AU/AU]; Level 2, 90  
William Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000 (AU).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): WEST, Simon,  
Michael [AU/AU]; 3 Verdon Street, Williamstown, VIC  
3016 (AU). KANNAR, David [AU/AU]; 182 Belgrave  
Hallam Road, Belgrave South, VIC 3160 (AU).

(74) Agent: MALLESONS, Stephen, Jaques; Level 28 Ri-  
alto, 525 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 (AU).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,  
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,  
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,  
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,  
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,  
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,  
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,  
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,  
ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,  
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SI, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),  
Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), Euro-  
pean (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR,  
GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK,  
TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,  
ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-  
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-  
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



WO 2004/092186 A1

(54) Title: PHOSPHATES OF SECONDARY ALCOHOLS

(57) Abstract: According to the invention, there is provided a phosphate derivative of a compound having a secondary hydroxy group. The compound having a secondary hydroxyl group may, for example, be chosen from pravastatin, atorvastatin, venlafaxine, their derivatives and mixtures thereof.

## Phosphates of secondary alcohols

### Field of the invention

The invention relates to phosphate derivatives of compounds having a secondary hydroxy group.

### 5 Background of the invention

In this specification, where a document, act or item of knowledge is referred to or discussed, this reference or discussion is not an admission that the document, act or item of knowledge or any combination thereof was at the priority date part of common general knowledge; or known to be relevant to an attempt to solve any problem with which this specification is concerned.

- 10 Whilst the following discussion relates to phosphate and phosphate complex derivatives of venlafaxine, pravastatin and atorvastatin, it will be understood that the invention has applications to other pharmaceuticals having secondary hydroxy groups where improved water solubility, tissue penetration, lymphatic transport or decreased first pass metabolism may be desired. Furthermore, whilst the following discussion emphasizes pharmaceuticals having
- 15 antidepressant and cholesterol lowering characteristics, it will be understood that the invention is not so limited but includes pharmaceuticals having other characteristics.

### Hypercholesterolaemic drugs – pravastatin and atorvastatin

- The association between high total serum cholesterol and an increased risk of cardiovascular disease has been known for decades. The risk of cardiovascular disease increases with
- 20 increasing levels of serum total cholesterol, increasing levels of serum LDL cholesterol and decreasing levels of serum HDL cholesterol.

- Methods of lowering serum cholesterol vary from dietary management through to surgical removal of bowel loops and various pharmaceutical approaches. Although dietary and lifestyle management will always remain first line treatment, pharmaceutical intervention is often
- 25 needed to achieve clinically significant reduction in elevated serum cholesterol. The largest therapeutic group to be marketed for reduction of serum cholesterol are competitive inhibitors of HMG-CoA reductase (3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-coenzyme A) or the “statins”. These drugs specifically inhibit the liver enzyme HMG-CoA reductase which responsible for converting HMG-CoA to mevalonate. This conversion is the rate-limiting step in de-novo
- 30 synthesis of cholesterol in the body. Approximately 90% of the body’s cholesterol is

manufactured via this pathway so HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors are very effective agents and reduce serum cholesterol more significantly than previous therapies.

Statins are structural analogues of HMG-CoA reductase and work by inhibiting this enzyme responsible for catalysing the rate-limiting step in the biosynthesis of cholesterol. The first  
5 drug in this class - compactin was developed in the early 1980's and was soon followed by lovastatin, atorvastatin, fluvastatin, pravastatin and simvastatin. Production of cholesterol in the liver follows a diurnal pattern, with the majority being produced during the night. For this reason, most statins are administered to a patient at night so that they are active during the period of greatest cholesterol synthesis. Lovastatin and simvastatin are inactive pro-drugs that  
10 are hydrolysed in the gastrointestinal tract to active beta-hydroxyl derivatives. Atorvastatin, pravastatin and fluvastatin are active drugs as given.

Pravastatin is rapidly absorbed into the blood after oral administration. Plasma concentrations are proportional to the dose administered and elimination half-life is between 1.5 to 2 hours. Although peak plasma levels are attained after about an hour and a half with absorption ranges  
15 from 30 to 50%, absolute bioavailability is only around 17% due to a very high first pass metabolism. Therefore, an improved formulation would decrease the amount lost through first pass metabolism. Pravastatin (CAS 81093-37-0) and its sodium salt (CAS 81131-70-6) are the only forms currently known.

Similarly, atorvastatin is rapidly absorbed with maximal plasma concentrations occurring  
20 approximately 2 hours after administration, however the absolute bioavailability is only 14%. The low systemic bioavailability is due to gastrointestinal mucosal clearance and/or high hepatic first pass metabolism. Again, an improved formulation would have an increased absolute bioavailability. Atorvastatin is currently used in its free acid form (CAS 134523-00-5) and its calcium salt (CAS 134523-03-8).

25 The drugs provide their maximum benefit when they reach the liver. However, absorption and activity of the drug is often impeded by:

- (a) liver tissue uptake,
- (b) low elimination half life values, and
- (c) low levels of accumulation of the drug in the liver.

Antidepressant – venlafaxine

Depression is one of the most common psychiatric disorders, reported to affect at any given moment up to 5 - 6% of the population. Symptoms of depression are often vague or subtle and manifestation is sometimes unrecognisable both by patients and physicians.

- 5 After the introduction of reserpine in the 1950's for treatment of hypertension, it became apparent that one of the drug's side effects was depression. Pharmacologic studies of this effect revealed that reserpine inhibited the storage of amine neurotransmitters serotonin and norepinephrine (adrenalin) in vesicles of the presynaptic nerve endings. It was therefore concluded that depression must involve depletion or decreased function of amine dependant synaptic transmission. This simple syllogism provided what was known as the amine hypothesis of depression. The first antidepressants introduced were monoamine oxidase inhibitors (MAOI) and shortly after their release tricyclic antidepressants (originally derived from an antihistamine) were launched. Treatment of depression has therefore undergone many changes over time as further discoveries about the biochemistry of depression have been made.
- 10
- 15 Venlafaxine was approved for use as an antidepressant at the end of 1993. It is an opiate derivative which appears to inhibit re-uptake of noradrenaline, serotonin and dopamine – thus increasing their levels and reducing symptoms of depression. The compound therefore acts to potentiate neurotransmitter activity in the central nervous system (CNS). In theory it combines all the known modes of antidepressant action but has little effect on cholinergic, histaminergic or adrenergic receptors and therefore causes fewer side effects commonly associated with other antidepressants.
- 20

- The commercially produced drug, venlafaxine hydrochloride, is a racemate. The R-enantiomer is a more potent inhibitor of noradrenaline uptake and the S-enantiomer is a more potent inhibitor of serotonin uptake. Both however are more potent on blocking serotonin uptake than noradrenaline reuptake.
- 25

- Venlafaxine is well absorbed orally but has a short half-life and is subject to extensive first pass metabolism. The major metabolite of venlafaxine is O-desmethylvenlafaxine which is equally potent as venlafaxine. An extended release formulation has therefore become available to allow once daily dosing. Mean peak plasma concentrations following single 25 to 150 mg doses, range from approximately 33 to 175 ng/ml reached in approximately 2.4 hours. Half-life of venlafaxine is calculated to be 5 hours and O-desmethylvenlafaxine is 11 hours.
- 30

Venlafaxine and its metabolites are primarily excreted via the kidneys with approximately 85% being recovered in the urine 48 hours after dosage as unchanged drug, O-desmethylvenlafaxine or conjugated O-desmethylvenlafaxine. Administration with food slightly delays peak plasma concentration but does not influence formation of O-desmethylvenlafaxine.

- 5 Although pravastatin sodium, atorvastatin calcium and venlafaxine hydrochloride are well absorbed, these drugs suffer high first pass metabolism which decreases their absolute bioavailability.

Accordingly there exists a need for improved pharmaceuticals which are less prone to loss through first pass metabolism as compared with pharmaceuticals having secondary alcohol  
10 groups of the prior art.

#### Summary of the invention

It was found that secondary alcohols are readily phosphorylated in the presence of sodium salts of fatty acids and  $P_4O_{10}$ . Previous methods used to phosphorylate these secondary alcohols had the disadvantage of causing a significant degree of dehydration of the secondary alcohol to  
15 form a double bond.

According to a first aspect of the invention, there is provided a phosphate derivative of a compound selected from the group consisting of pravastatin and derivatives thereof, atorvastatin and derivatives thereof, venlafaxine and derivatives thereof and mixtures thereof.

In a preferred embodiment the phosphate derivative may be a phosphatide. In another  
20 preferred embodiment the phosphate derivative is a complex formed with a complexing agent selected from the group comprising amphoteric surfactants, cationic surfactants, amino acids having nitrogen functional groups and proteins rich in these amino acids.

According to a second aspect of the invention, there is provided a method for preparing a phosphate derivative of a compound having a secondary hydroxy group comprising the step of  
25 reacting the compound having a secondary hydroxy group with  $P_4O_{10}$  in the presence of an alkali metal salt of a fatty acid.

The alkali metals are known to persons skilled in the art and include sodium and potassium. Preferably the alkali metal is sodium.

Suitable fatty acids are known to persons skilled in the art and include oleic acid and valeric  
30 acid.

Examples of compounds having secondary hydroxy groups which may be used in this method include venlafaxine (CAS 93413-69-5), pravastatin (CAS 81093-37-0) and atorvastatin (CAS 134523-00-5).

In a preferred embodiment, the method further comprises the step of reacting the phosphate derivative of a compound having a secondary hydroxy group with a di or mono acyl glyceride to form a phosphatide derivative of the compound having a secondary hydroxy group.

Where used herein the term "phosphate derivatives" refers to compounds covalently bound by means of an oxygen to the phosphorus atom of a phosphate group. The phosphate derivative may exist in the form of a free phosphate acid, a salt thereof, a di-phosphate ester thereby including two molecules of the compound having a secondary hydroxy group, a mixed ester including two different compounds, a phosphatidyl compound wherein the free phosphate oxygen forms a bond with an alkyl or substituted alkyl group such as a di or mono acyl glyceride or as a complex with a complexing agent.

Suitable complexing agents for use in the present invention may be selected from surfactants chosen from the classes including imino compounds, alkyl amino/amido betaines, sultaines, phosphobetaines, phosphitaines, imidazolium and straight chain mono and dicarboxy ampholytes, quaternary ammonium salts, and cationic alkoxylated mono and di-fatty amines; and amino acids having nitrogen functional groups and proteins rich in these amino acids. Preferred complexing agents N-lauryl imino di-propionate and arginine.

Suitable amino acids having nitrogen functional groups for use in the present invention include glycine, arginine, lysine and histidine. Proteins rich in these amino acids may also be used as complexing agents, for example, casein. These complexing agents are used when the composition needs to be orally ingestible.

The amphoteric surfactants may be ampholytic surfactants, that is, they may exhibit a pronounced isoelectric point within a specific pH range; or zwitterionic surfactants, that is, they are cationic over the entire pH range and do not usually exhibit a pronounced isoelectric point. Examples of these amphoteric surfactants are tertiary substituted amines, such as those according to the following formula:



wherein  $\text{R}^1$  is chosen from the group comprising straight or branched chain mixed alkyl radicals from C6 to C22 or carbonyl derivatives thereof.

$R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently chosen from the group comprising H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{COOX}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CHOHCH}_2\text{SO}_3\text{X}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CHOHCH}_2\text{OPO}_3\text{X}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{COOX}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{COOX}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CHOHCH}_2\text{SO}_3\text{X}$  or  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CHOHCH}_2\text{OPO}_3\text{X}$  and X is H, Na, K or alkanolamine provided that  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are not both H.

- 5 In addition, when  $R^1$  is RCO then  $R^2$  may be  $\text{CH}_3$  and  $R^3$  may be  $(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2)\text{N}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{OH})\text{H}_2\text{CHOPO}_3$  or  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  together may be  $\text{N}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{N}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{OH})\text{CH}_2\text{COO}-$ .

Commercial examples are DERIPHAT sold by Henkel/Cognis, DEHYTON sold by Henkel/Cognis, TEGOBETAINE sold by Goldschmidt and MIRANOL sold by Rhone Poulenc.

- 10 Cationic surfactants, such as quaternary ammonium compounds, will also form complexes with phosphorylated derivatives of drug hydroxy compounds such as tocopheryl phosphates. Examples of cationic surfactants include the following:

- (a)  $\text{RN}^+(\text{CH}_3)_3 \text{Cl}^-$   
 (b)  $[\text{R}_2\text{N}^+\text{CH}_3]_2 \text{SO}_4^{2-}$   
 15 (c)  $[\text{RCON}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{N}^+(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4\text{OH}]_2 \text{SO}_4^{2-}$   
 (d) Ethomeens:  $\text{RN}[(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_x \text{CH}_2\text{OH}][(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_y \text{CH}_2\text{OH}]$  wherein x and y are integers from 1 to 50.

wherein R is C8 to C22 straight or branched chain alkyl groups or mixed alkyl groups.

- Silicone surfactants including hydrophilic and hydrophobic functionality may also be used, for  
 20 example, dimethicone PG betaine, amodimethicone or trimethylsilylamodimethicone. For example, ABILE 9950 from Goldschmidt Chemical Co. The hydrophobe can be a C6 to C22 straight -or branched alkyl or mixed alkyl including fluoroalkyl, fluorosilicone and or mixtures thereof. The hydrophilic portion can be an alkali metal, alkaline earth or alkanolamine salts of carboxy alkyl groups or sulfoxy alkyl groups, that is sultaines, phosphitaines or  
 25 phosphobetaines or mixtures thereof.

- Typically, the complex of the phosphate derivative of the compound having a secondary hydroxy group may be made by (1) direct neutralization of the free phosphoric acid ester of the pravastatin, atorvastatin or venlafaxine with the complexing agents or (2) in-situ blending of mixed sodium salts of the phosphate derivatives of the compound having a secondary hydroxy  
 30 group with the complexing agents.

The phosphate derivatives of compounds having a secondary hydroxy group according to the invention when used in a suitable route of administration (oral, transmucosal, intranasal, transdermal, intravenous or combinations thereof) may provide various benefits including:

- 5 (a) improved water solubility eliminating need for dissolution in lipidic vehicles and side effects associated with these compounds;
- (b) delivery of the compound primarily to the lymphatic system reducing the extent of first pass metabolism;
- (c) increased liver tissue specificity leading to a higher accumulation in liver tissue with a longer elimination half-life;
- 10 (d) increased systemic bioavailability following dermal delivery;
- (e) potential use as a chronic delivery system because of improved dermal penetration and smoother absorption kinetics leading to a lower side effect profile;
- (f) potential use as an enteric coated transfer protein complex;
- 15 (g) potential use as an active domain attachment; and
- (h) increased bioavailability in the CNS reducing the amount of drug needed for therapeutic efficacy.

### Examples

20 The invention will now be further explained and illustrated by reference to the following non-limiting examples.

#### Example 1 - preparation of phosphate derivative of atorvastatin

The free acid of atorvastatin 55.8 g (0.1M) and 37.2 g of sodium valerate (0.3M) were dissolved in 100 ml toluene. 12.6 g (0.05M) of  $P_4O_{10}$  was added and mixed with high shear mixing for one hour slowly raising the temperature to 80°C. 10 ml of water was added and the  
25 high sheer mixing continued for a further hour at 60°C. 100 ml of a 0.1M sodium carbonate solution was added and the mixture gently stirred then centrifuged and the process repeated. The toluene phase was recovered and washed with 100 ml of 0.1M hydrochloric acid. The toluene phase was recovered and the toluene and valeric acid removed under vacuum to give



the phosphoric ester of atorvastatin ([R-(R\*,R\*)]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)- $\beta$ -phosphono- $\delta$ -hydroxy-5-(1-methylethyl)-3-phenyl-4-[(phenylamino)carbonyl]-1*H*-pyrrole-1-heptanoic acid).

#### Example 2- preparation of phosphate derivative of pravastatin

The free acid of pravastatin 42.5 g (0.1M) and 37.2 g of sodium valerate (0.3M) were  
 5 dissolved in 100 ml toluene. 12.6 g (0.05M) of P<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub> was added and mixed with high shear mixing for one hour slowly raising the temperature to 80°C. 10 ml of water was added and the high sheer mixing continued for a further hour at 60°C. 100 ml of a 0.1M sodium carbonate solution was added and the mixture gently stirred then centrifuged and the process repeated. The toluene phase was recovered and washed with 100 ml of 0.1M hydrochloric acid. The  
 10 toluene phase was recovered and the toluene and valeric acid removed under vacuum to give the phosphoric ester of pravastatin ([1S-[1 $\alpha$ ( $\beta$ S\*, $\delta$ S\*),2 $\alpha$ ,6 $\alpha$ ,8 $\beta$ (R\*),8 $\alpha$ ]]-1,2,6,7,8,8a-hexahydro- $\beta$ -phosphono- $\delta$ ,6-dihydroxy-2-methyl-8-(2-methyl-1-oxobutoxy)-1-naphthleneheptanoic acid).

#### Example 3- preparation of phosphate derivative of venlafaxine

15 The free acid of venlafaxine 27.7 g (0.1M) and 37.2 g of sodium valerate (0.3M) were dissolved in 100 ml toluene. 12.6 g (0.05M) of P<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub> was added and mixed with high shear mixing for one hour slowly raising the temperature to 80°C. 10 ml of water was added and the high sheer mixing continued for a further hour at 60°C. 100 ml of a 0.1M sodium carbonate solution was added and the mixture gently stirred then centrifuged and the process repeated.  
 20 The toluene phase was recovered and washed with 100 ml of 0.1M hydrochloric acid. The toluene phase was recovered and the toluene and valeric acid removed under vacuum to give the phosphoric ester of venlafaxine (1-[-(dimethylamino)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl]cyclohexyl dihydrogen phosphate).

#### Example 4- preparation of phosphatidyl derivative of atorvastatin

25 The free acid of atorvastatin 55.8g (0.1M) and 37.2g of sodium valerate (0.3M) were dissolved in 100 ml toluene. 12.6 g (0.05M) of P<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub> was added and mixed with high shear mixing for one hour slowly raising the temperature to 80°C. 1,2-distearoyl glycerol 30 g was added and the high sheer mixing continued for a further hour at 60°C. 100 ml of a 0.5M sodium hydroxide solution was added and the mixture gently stirred then centrifuged and the process  
 30 repeated. The toluene phase was recovered and washed with 100 ml of 0.1M hydrochloric acid. The toluene phase was recovered and the toluene and valeric acid removed under vacuum to give 1,2-distearoyl phosphatidyl atorvastatin.

Atorvastatin phosphate was recovered from the aqueous phases.

**Example 5 - preparation of phosphatidyl derivative of pravastatin**

The free acid of pravastatin 42.5 g (0.1M) and 37.2 g of sodium valerate (0.3M) were dissolved in 100 ml toluene. 12.6 g (0.05M) of  $P_4O_{10}$  was added and mixed with high shear  
5 mixing for one hour slowly raising the temperature to 80°C. 1,2-distearoyl glycerol 30 g was added and the high sheer mixing continued for a further hour at 60°C. 100 ml of a 0.5M sodium hydroxide solution was added and the mixture gently stirred then centrifuged and the process repeated. The toluene phase was recovered and washed with 100 ml of 0.1M hydrochloric acid. The toluene phase was recovered and the toluene and valeric acid removed  
10 under vacuum to give 1,2-distearoyl phosphatidyl pravastatin.

Pravastatin phosphate was recovered from the aqueous phases.

**Example 6 - preparation of phosphatidyl derivative of venlafaxine**

The free acid of venlafaxine 27.7 g (0.1M) and 37.2 g of sodium valerate (0.3M) were dissolved in 100 ml toluene. 12.6 g (0.05M) of  $P_4O_{10}$  was added and mixed with high shear  
15 mixing for one hour slowly raising the temperature to 80°C. 1,2-distearoyl glycerol 30 g was added and the high sheer mixing continued for a further hour at 60°C. 100 ml of a 0.5M sodium hydroxide solution was added and the mixture gently stirred then centrifuged and the process repeated. The toluene phase was recovered and washed with 100 ml of 0.1M hydrochloric acid. The toluene phase was recovered and the toluene and valeric acid removed  
20 under vacuum to give 1,2-distearoyl phosphatidyl venlafaxine.

Venlafaxine phosphate was recovered from the aqueous phases.

**Example 7 - preparation of complex of phosphate derivative of pravastatin**

50.45 (0.1M) of the phosphoric acid ester of pravastatin was mixed with 40.4 (0.1M) of lauryl-imino-dipropionate in 200 ml of water (equimolar proportions). The mixture was mixed  
25 thoroughly with good agitation. The final pH was adjusted as desired using small amounts of either component. The mixture was then freeze dried to give the solid complex as a powder (32-33% active).

**Example 8 - preparation of complex of phosphate derivative of pravastatin**

50.45g (0.1M) of the phosphoric acid ester of pravastatin was mixed with 17.4g (0.1M) of  
30 arginine in 200 ml of water (equimolar proportions). The mixture was mixed thoroughly with

good agitation. The final pH was adjusted as desired using small amounts of either component. The mixture was then freeze dried to give the solid complex as a powder.

**Example 9- preparation of complex of phosphatidyl derivative of venlafaxine**

88.4 g (0.1M) of venlafaxine phosphatide was mixed with 40.4 g (0.1M) of lauryl-imino-  
5 dipropionate in 200 ml of water (equimolar proportions). The mixture was mixed thoroughly with good agitation. The final pH was adjusted as desired using small amounts of either component. The mixture was then freeze dried to give the solid phosphatidyl venlafaxine deriphath complex as a powder.

**Example 10 - preparation of complex of phosphatidyl derivative of venlafaxine**

10 88.4 g (0.1M) of Venlafaxine phosphatide was mixed with 17.4 g (0.1M) of arginine in 200 ml of water (equimolar proportions). The mixture was mixed thoroughly with good agitation. The final pH was adjusted as desired using small amounts of either component. The mixture was then freeze dried to give the solid phosphatidyl venlafaxine arginine complex as a powder.

15 The word 'comprising' and forms of the word 'comprising' as used in this description and in the claims does not limit the invention claimed to exclude any variants or additions.

Modifications and improvements to the invention will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art. Such modifications and improvements are intended to be within the scope of this invention.

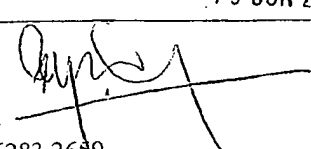
## CLAIMS:

1. A phosphate derivative of a compound selected from the group consisting of pravastatin and derivatives thereof, atorvastatin and derivatives thereof, venlafaxine and derivatives thereof and mixtures thereof.
- 5 2. The phosphate derivative according to claim 1 wherein the phosphate derivative is a phosphatide.
3. The phosphate derivative according to claim 1 wherein the phosphate derivative is a complex, the complexing agent being selected from the group consisting of amphoteric surfactants, cationic surfactants, amino acids having nitrogen functional groups and  
10 proteins rich in these amino acids, and mixtures thereof.
4. The phosphate derivative according to claim 3 wherein the complexing agent is selected from the group consisting of glycine, arginine, lysine, histidine and lauryl-imino-dipropionate.
5. A method for phosphorylating a compound having a secondary hydroxy group  
15 comprising step (a) reacting the compound having a secondary hydroxy group with  $P_4O_{10}$  in the presence of an alkali metal salt of a fatty acid.
6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the compound having a secondary hydroxy group is selected from the group consisting of pravastatin, atorvastatin or venlafaxine.
7. The method according to claim 5 wherein the alkali metal salt of a fatty acid is sodium  
20 valerate.
8. The method according to claim 5 further comprising step (b) reacting the product of step (a) with a di or mono acyl glyceride to form a phosphatide.
9. The method according to claim 5 further comprising step (b') reacting the product of step (a) with a complexing agent is selected from the group comprising amphoteric  
25 surfactants, cationic surfactants, amino acids having nitrogen functional groups and proteins rich in these amino acids.
10. The method according to claim 8 further comprising step (c) reacting the product of step (b) with a complexing agent is selected from the group comprising amphoteric  
30 surfactants, cationic surfactants, amino acids having nitrogen functional groups and proteins rich in these amino acids.

11. The method according to either of claims 9 or 10 wherein the complexing agent is selected from the group consisting of glycine, arginine, lysine, histidine and lauryl-imino-dipropionate
12. A phosphate derivative comprising the reaction product of a compound having a  
5 secondary hydroxy group reacted with  $P_4O_{10}$  in the presence of an alkali metal salt of a fatty acid.
13. A phosphate derivative selected from the group consisting of [R-(R\*,R\*)]-2-(4-fluorophenyl)- $\beta$ -phosphono- $\delta$ -hydroxy-5-(1-methylethyl)-3-phenyl-4-  
10 [(phenylamino)carbonyl]-1*H*-pyrrole-1-heptanoic acid, [1*S*-  
[1 $\alpha$ ( $\beta$ S\*, $\delta$ S\*),2 $\alpha$ ,6 $\alpha$ ,8 $\beta$ (R\*),8 $\alpha\alpha$ ]]-1,2,6,7,8,8 $\alpha$ -hexahydro- $\beta$ -phosphono- $\delta$ ,6-dihydroxy-2-methyl-8-(2-methyl-1-oxobutoxy)-1-naphthleneheptanoic acid, 1-[-(dimethylamino)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl]cyclohexyl dihydrogen phosphate and mixtures thereof.
14. A phosphate derivative selected from the group consisting of 1,2-distearoyl  
15 phosphatidyl atorvastatin, 1,2-distearoyl phosphatidyl pravastatin, 1,2-distearoyl phosphatidyl venlafaxine and mixtures thereof.
15. A phosphate derivative according to any one of claims 1 to 3 or 12 to 14 when administered to a patient to lower patient serum cholesterol levels.
16. A phosphate derivative according to any one of claims 1 to 3 or 12 to 14 when  
20 administered to a patient to treat depression.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/AU2004/000490

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER																						
Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup> : C07F 9/09, 9/10, 9/12, 9/117, A61K 9/08, 31/661, 31/6615, 31/683, 31/685, A61P 9/00, 23/00, 25/24																						
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC																						
B. FIELDS SEARCHED																						
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)																						
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched																						
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) ORBIT QUESTEL; File WPAT, STN; CA; MEDLINE; WPIDS; (keywords: phosphorous anhydride; phosphorous pentoxide; valerate; oleate; fatty acid; valeric acid; oleic acid; Pravastatin; Atorvastatin; Venflaxine; phosph; phosf)																						
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT																						
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.																				
X	AU 43870/00 (766255) B2 (VITAL HEALTH SCIENCES PTY LTD) 5 December 2000. See whole document in particular page 4 lines 24-25	5																				
X	Derwent Abstract Accession No. 26921 K/11, Class B05 E11 SU 925961 A (MOSC FOOD IND TECHN) 7 May 1982 See whole abstract	5																				
X	Derwent Abstract Accession No.1981-89192D/48, Class A89 E11 G05 P83 US 4299906 A (AMERICAN HOECHST) 10 November 1981 See whole abstract	5																				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex																						
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>"A"</td> <td>document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</td> <td>"T"</td> <td>later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"E"</td> <td>earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</td> <td>"X"</td> <td>document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"L"</td> <td>document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</td> <td>"Y"</td> <td>document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"O"</td> <td>document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</td> <td>"&amp;"</td> <td>document member of the same patent family</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"P"</td> <td>document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	"E"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family	"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention																			
"E"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone																			
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art																			
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family																			
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed																					
Date of the actual completion of the international search 9 June 2004		Date of mailing of the international search report 15 JUN 2004																				
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929		Authorized officer  S.R. IDRUS Telephone No : (02) 6283 2659																				

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000490

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	GB 1,121,683 A (GENERAL ANILINE & FILM CORPORATION) 31 July 1968 See whole document, in particular Examples	5
X	STN File CA, Abstract 139:399976 & PURATCHIKODY A. et. al., "Reverse phase-high performance liquid chromatographic determination of atorvastatin calcium in solid dosage forms", Pharma Review (2003), 1(2), 79-80, 83 See whole abstract	1
A	WO 2001/046204 A1 (MERCK FROSST CANADA & CO) 28 June 2001 See page 8 lines 18-22; page 23 lines 1-10; claims	1
A	GB 2 227 662 A (& DE 4002836) (E.R. SQUIBB & SONS INC) 8 August 1990 See page 7 lines 1-20; page 3 lines 13-17; Examples 1 & 2	1

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/AU2004/000490

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member			
AU	43870/00	AU	26465/00	BR	0009009
		CA	2372066	CN	1336923
		EP	1178994	ID	30553
		US	6579995	WO	2000/043380
SU	925961	NONE			
US	4299906	CA	1146397	EP	0019896
GB	1121683	BE	669662	DE	1518948
		US	3331896	FR	1446884
WO	2001/046204	AU	23358/01	CA	2393359
		US	6448429	US	2002052347
GB	2227662	CA	2007643	DE	4002836
		JP	2235821	FR	2642311

Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.

END OF ANNEX